



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KNET Statement on the Upcoming Rogers 3G Shutdown

SIOUX LOOKOUT, ON – KNET recognizes the importance of reliable telecommunications for health, safety, and daily life across northern First Nations. With the **Rogers 3G shutdown scheduled for December 31, 2025**, we want to provide clear information and reassurance to the communities we serve.

KNET's Network and Commitment

KNET operates a **First Nations–owned and managed cellular network** providing service in **25 remote and northern communities**—areas where major telecommunications providers such as Rogers and TBayTel do not directly operate.

Our network supports **nursing stations, band offices, schools, and community members** who would otherwise have limited or no cellular access.

Impact of the 3G Shutdown

Rogers' planned termination of 3G roaming will have the following effects:

- **TBayTel customers** will no longer have service in KNET-served First Nations until equipment is upgraded.
- **KNET customers** will continue to have service, but will need to switch to **KNET eSIMs** to stay connected beyond December 31, 2025.
- **KNET Mobile** will soon introduce new **pre-paid and post-paid business plans** to ensure continued service in communities.

Our Efforts to Upgrade and Modernize

KNET has been pursuing funding to upgrade beyond 3G for over two years. While federal and provincial funding applications are ongoing, **KNET has already invested in major core-network upgrades** to prepare for next-generation connectivity.



To complete site-level upgrades across all 25 First Nation communities, **significant funding is still required** to replace antennas, shelters, and tower equipment. KNET continues to collaborate with **First Nations leadership, Tribal Councils, and funding partners** to make these upgrades a reality.

Working Together for Connectivity

Reliable telecommunications are essential for:

- Emergency response and public safety
- Health and medical access
- Education and youth connection
- Community and cultural continuity

KNET emphasizes that this is a **collective effort**. Indigenous-led providers, First Nations, and Tribal Councils all play a role in ensuring that no community is left behind during this transition.

A Call for Partnership

KNET continues to call on government funders, regulators, and industry partners to:

- Support **funding for critical infrastructure upgrades** in northern First Nations.
- Ensure **uninterrupted connectivity** throughout the transition period.
- Recognize and invest in **Indigenous-owned telecommunications networks** that serve where national carriers do not.

About KNET

KNET (Keewaytinook Okimakanak e-Community) is an Indigenous-led telecommunications organization providing broadband, cellular, and digital services to First Nations across Northern Ontario. For over 25 years, KNET has worked in partnership with communities to build and maintain digital infrastructure that supports health, education, governance, and community connection.

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